



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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1 April 1996

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April 1996

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FBIS-AFK-96-063

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Burundi

Burundi: 9 Die in Clashes Between Soldiers, Hutu Rebels in South

AB3003171196 *Libreville Africa No. 1 in French*
1215 GMT 30 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Text] In Burundi, eight Hutu rebels and a soldier have died in clashes in (?Gishishi) in central Burundi. According to Provincial Governor Macaire Nahimana, clashes broke out when Hutu rebels from the Forces for the Defense of Democracy [FDD] attacked a military position in the (Gikoro) hills. It must be pointed out that the FDD is the armed wing of the National Council for the Defense of Democracy led by former Minister Leonard Nyangoma, a Hutu.

The movement's spokesman disclosed in Nairobi yesterday that the Burundian Hutu rebels will harass the national army until it agree to go to the negotiating table and hand over power to the people. Clashes between the national army and Hutu rebels have intensified over the past two weeks in the south of the country, leading to 70 deaths.

Burundi: Finance Minister Reports 'Alarming' Budgetary 'Crisis'

EA3003170496 *Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French* 1100 GMT 29 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The president of the Republic, Mr. Sylvestre Ntibantunganya, yesterday (28 March) chaired an extraordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers. Four items were on the agenda of the meeting, as our colleague (Jacques Bukuru) reports:

[Begin (Bukuru) recording] According to a report presented by the minister of finance on the 1996 budgetary crisis and its management, our country is experiencing an extremely difficult situation at the economic level, which is an alarming situation.

The manifestations of the crisis are delays in the payment of salaries by the Ministry of Labor. Some of projects have been halted or are in the process of being halted because the international community has suspended almost their entire aid to Burundi. The foreign debt is no longer paid on time. The local government suppliers are paid late and the state's operational means are severely restricted.

All these indicators led the minister of finance to alert the Council of Ministers to this disastrous situation so that preventive steps can be taken before it is too late.

The Council of Ministers recommended that within one week every minister should have developed a strategy for managing the crisis, each one in his own sector. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Cameroon

Cameroon: 11 Rwanda Genocide Suspects Arrested

EA0104135196 *Kigali Radio Rwanda in English*
0515 GMT 1 Apr 96

[All names as heard]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Cameroonian Government has arrested 11 people accused of participation in the genocide in Rwanda. The move took place on Wednesday 27th March 1996.

The arrested are Colonel Nsengiyunva Anatole, the former head of the military intelligence in Rwanda; Colonel Muberuka Felicien, the former military commander of Kanombe Barracks; Nahimana Ferdinand, once former director of Orinfor [Rwandan news agency] and one of the directors of Radio RTLM; Barayagwiza Jean-Bosco, the spokesman of CDR [Coalition for the Defense of the Republic]; Ntagerura Andre, the former minister of transport and communication during the Sindikubwabo and Kambanda regimes [president and prime minister of the interim government after the death of Habyarimana]; Semanza [word indistinct], former burgomaster of Commune Bicumbi and central member of MRND [Habyarimana's party]; Musabe Pasteur, former director general of Bacar and one of the senior financiers of Interahamwe militia; Ruzindana Augustin, former director general of the Rwandan National Bank and one of the leaders of the MRND; Butera Jean-Baptiste, former assistant prefect of Kigali-ville during the genocide period; (name indistinct), former director general of (Ceptral), one of the factories in Rwanda, and Bizimungu Telesphore, one of the leaders of Interahamwe militia.

Following this, the government of Rwanda is grateful to the steps taken by the Cameroonian Government in trying to eradicate the culture of impunity in Rwanda.

Further still, the Rwandan Government is appealing to the Cameroonian Government to extradite Colonel Theoneste Bagosora and the newly-arrested group which is currently imprisoned in the Cameroonian capital, Yaounde, back to the Rwandan Government. More so, the Rwandan Government has put it clear that once these detainees accused of participation of genocide in Rwanda are brought back to the Rwandan (?soils), they will be treated in a humanitarian manner and they will be tried as recommended by the international law.

Chad

Chad: Constitutional Referendum Begins; Markets Deserted

AB3103154896 *Libreville Africa No. 1 in French*
1215 GMT 31 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Today is the day for the referendum on the first democratic constitution in Chad, and we have learned that the markets in Ndjamena, the capital, are deserted and the streets almost empty except for those leading to the various polling stations. Yesterday, (Pascal Yoadiniadji), chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission, announced that all the documents necessary for the constitutional referendum had been dispatched to the 6,000 polling stations. He also called for a massive turnout of voters to cast their votes.

Rwanda

Rwanda: Hundreds of Zairians Reportedly Fleeing to Rwanda

EA2903135696 *Kigali Radio Rwanda in English*
0515 GMT 29 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Reports from Gisenyi [northwestern Rwanda, on the Zairian border] say that Zairian refugees commonly known as (Banyijumba) from [eastern Zaire's] North Kivu Province have continued to flow into Rwanda through Gisenyi border post. The refugees say they are fleeing their homes in North Kivu province due to attacks by Zairean troops and interahamwe [Rwandan Hutu extremist] militias who attack them on the basis that they are of Rwandese origin.

The refugees say they have been looted of their property and have been charged a fee of \$12 for them to be transported from their homes to the border. The refugees added that apart from paying the \$12 fee, they have been looted of their property in transit to the border.

The refugees have been transported by Zairian troops in Onstracom — the Rwandan transport company [National Public Transportation Office] — buses which belong to the Rwandan Government but were taken across to Zaire by fleeing former Rwandan officials at the height of their defeat in 1994.

The (Banyijumba) refugees say they are indigenous inhabitants of North Kivu area, contrary to what is being claimed by the Zairian Government that the refugees are of Rwandese origin. Yesterday, more than 350 of the refugees were received in Gisenyi.

Rwanda: UN Sanctions Sought Against Arms Suppliers to Former Army

EA3103191196 *Kigali Radio Rwanda in English*
1145 GMT 30 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Government of Rwanda has requested the UN Security Council impose sanctions against countries which do not comply with the international commission charged with monitoring the supply of arms to former government armies of Rwanda now in exile in Zaire.

The request is contained in a letter made available to the UN in New York by the Rwandan representative to UN, Mr. Manzi Bakumutsa. The letter accused the Governments of Zaire and France for having been the first countries to work against the commission's decision. The request has come about while the UN Security Council was trying to involve Zaire in the implementation of arms embargo to the former Rwandan armies in Zaire. According to the UN Security Council's report, the Zairean Government supplied arms to the armies on 17th and 19th June 1994.

Meanwhile, the Zairean troops in collaboration with Interahamwe [Hutu extremist] militias have continued to attack the Zaireans known as Abanyejomba in North Kivu Province on the basis that they are of Rwanda origin.

Reports from Gisenyi [northwestern Rwanda] say that about 1,000 Zairian refugees have so far crossed to Rwanda via Gisenyi border post as a result of the attack. Reports say that they are being attacked, killed and their belongings destructed [as heard] or stolen while their land and houses are occupied by the Interahamwe militias. After taking them out of their land, they are ferried in the buses of the Interahamwe militias which [they] fled with during 1994 war and charge them U.S. \$12 as transport charges to the border post.

The Abanyejomba are the indigenous inhabitants of the area and are Zairians by nationality but are harassed and made refugees allegedly that they are Rwandans.

Rwanda: Prime Minister on Extraditing Bagosora for Genocide

AB3003174596 *Libreville Africa No. 1 in French*
1215 GMT 30 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Following his meeting with officials of the European Union, Rwandan Prime Minister Pierre-Celestin Rwigema, told correspondents why his government wanted the extradition of Colonel Theoneste Bagosora, accused of being one of the main planners of the 1994 massacres. Pierre-Celestin Rwigema has the details from Brussels:

[Begin Rwigema recording] We have to reconcile our populations, and the best foundation for this reconciliation is justice. Justice that will for ever eradicate the impunity that led to the process of genocide and massacres. Since Bagesora was a member of the cabinet at the Ministry of Defense and because the Defense Ministry was led by the president of the Republic — after his death as well — it was Bagesora who organized meetings to implement the genocide program that had been planned for a long time.

As you can see, if the Rwandan authorities could lay their hands on Bagesora, it is clear that Belgium, who

lost her 10 blue helmets [UN soldiers] — mandated not by Belgium but by the United Nations — will also be (?satisfied). The execution of the blue helmets was of course part of the genocide scheme, and we believe that Bagesora's (?arrest) could console several Rwandans and serve as a basis for a correct and logical justice. This could serve as a lesson to many Rwandans and enable us to categorize penalties and to reduce some sentences. [end recording]

Eritrea**Eritrea: Government Seeks Clarification of French Peace Proposals**

AB3103164296 Paris AFP in English
1550 GMT 31 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Asmara, March 31 (AFP) — Eritrea is seeking clarification of French proposals to end its dispute with Yemen over [the] Red Sea islands, but has not rejected them, Eritrean sources close to the talks said Sunday [31 March].

They said the Eritrean side had sent a seven-page request for clarification to the French mediators.

Unofficial sources meanwhile confirmed that Eritrean authorities were holding a French couple, identified in France as Etienne and Monique Forget, aged 60 and 55 respectively, on suspicion of espionage.

The government is refusing all comment on the case, apparently to avoid ruffling relations with France, but the sources said the couple were arrested about two weeks ago aboard their yacht near the disputed Hanish archipelago after they were found to be in possession of cameras with zoom lenses.

The authorities confiscated films they had taken in what is classified as a military zone, where the taking of photographs is forbidden, the sources said. [passage omitted]

Eritrea: French Couple Arrested, Accused of Espionage

BR0104114096 Paris LE FIGARO in French
30 Mar 96 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Two French Citizens Detained in Asmara"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A French married couple from Chalon-sur-Seine (Saone-et-Loire), Mr. Etienne Forget, a 60-year-old retired insurance broker, and his 55-year-old spouse Monique have been under house arrest on espionage charges in a room at the Khartoum Hotel in Asmara, the Eritrean capital, for 15 days now. The couple, who departed on a trip around the world aboard a sailing ship eight years ago, were arrested while they were visiting an island in the Hanish archipelago, which is claimed by both Yemen and Eritrea. Yesterday France's Djibouti-based ambassador visited the couple, but could not obtain their release. France is acting as a mediator in the territorial dispute between Yemen and Eritrea.

Eritrea: Government Releases Iranians Detained After Plane Hijacking

EA3103134896 Asmara Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrigna 1600 GMT 30 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Text] According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, three Iranians, who did not have the necessary documents after last week's Sudanese airways hijacking — which was ordered to land in Asmara — and who had been under Eritrean Government investigation, have been set free today [30 March]. This happened after the Foreign Ministry and Iranian ambassador to Ethiopia certified their documents and made sure that they did not have any contacts with any [word indistinct]. In addition, the Iranian ambassador to Ethiopia has been ordered to bring documents relating the three Iranians to Asmara. It is recalled that two Sudanese hijacked a Sudanese airways airbus last week. The aircraft returned without any problems on 25 March with all its passengers.

Kenya**Kenya: Refugees Riot Against New Food Distribution System**

EA2903150696 Nairobi KNA in English
1849 GMT 28 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Lodwar, 28th March: A section of refugees at the Kakuma refugee camp in Turkana district [northwestern Kenya] went on [the] rampage last night, beating a UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] official and damaging property worth shillings 4 million in protest over a new food distribution system. The riot started around seven PM when some three officers of the UNHCR were showing a video tape about the new centralized system of food distribution in a social hall at the section of the camp reserved for Sudanese refugees.

They protested against the system, thereby beating one of the officers identified as Mr. Louis Kibe. The other two officers managed to escape amidst the stone-throwing rioters, but the windscreen of their vehicle was heavily damaged. Police from Kakuna station managed to save Mr. Kibe from his assailants.

Later in the night the rioters pulled down the social hall and two recently-built food distribution sectors. They also looted the video machine, a patrol generator, 14 sewing machines, a telephone and a solar cooking facility, all valued at shillings 4 million, according to the camp manager, Mr. Zaka Kuawogai. [passage omitted]

A UNHCR official, who had flown from Nairobi, Mr. Cesar Ortega, said the incident was a great disappoint-

ment to his commission and the international community at large. Kakuma refugee camp has 47,000 refugees, most of them from Sudan, Mr. Ortega observed.

Somalia

Somalia: 'Over 60' of Aidid's Armed Militiamen Defect to Mahdi Side

*AB3103195796 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 31 Mar 96*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In Somalia, a group of over 60 armed militiamen have defected from General Mohamed Farah Aidid. The largest number, 58, have made their way to territory controlled by Ali Mahdi Mohamed in northern Mogadishu, while the other six have escaped to the Maddinna district of south Mogadishu, which is under the control of supporters of Ali Mahdi. From Mogadishu, Ali Musa Abdi faxed this report:

The commander of the group, which defected to north Mogadishu, Superintendent (Gosa Jesa), said his militiamen had fled the main brigade in Merca. The main brigade had been sent to Merca by Gen. Aidid to fight Osman Ato's men. (Jesa) said that he and his men were unwilling to get involved in fighting between Habr Gedir militia. (Jesa) said that he had lost three of his own men in such encounters. He told reporters in north Mogadishu that his men had suffered from a lack of food, because they were given just two meals a day, consisting of maize and sorghum. As he spoke, dozens of his men stood nearby, wearing the uniform of Aidid's militia. One of them, a 16-year-old, said that he was willing to fight against Aidid's men now. He added: I hope my colleagues will do the same. The defectors are mainly from the Rahanwein tribe and complained that Gen. Aidid had the habit of discriminating among his militiamen. They said that he preferred the Habr Gedir, then the (Murisaad), with the Rahanwein last.

Meanwhile, the interior secretary of the United Somali Congress-Somali National Alliance, has urged Gen. Aidid to evacuate his militia from hospitals in (Dikfa) and

Banaadir in south Mogadishu. The interior secretary, Colonel Abdi Hassan Awale Kabdid "Qeybdiid", said the presence of the militia was threatening the stability of those areas. Militia, belonging to Osman Ato and Mohamed Aidid, have stationed themselves close to the hospitals, and the number of armed men is said to be frightening the patients and their relatives.

Uganda

Uganda: Government Reports Rebel Mortar Attack on Gulu

*EA2903220996 Kampala Radio Uganda Network
in English 1900 GMT 29 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mr. Amama Mbabazi, minister of state for defense, has announced that last night, 28th March 1996, at 0200 AM a force of bandits estimated to be about 40 in number infiltrated (Kiroombe), about two km to the (?northeast) of Gulu town [in northern Uganda] and fired 860mm mortar shells toward Gulu UPDF [Uganda People's Defense Force].

However, according to a press release issued by Mr. Amama Mbabazi, the shells landed in (Kamyabuga) on the western outskirts of Gulu town about one kilometre only from the barracks. Mr. Mbabazi said the bandits again formed at (Nyakirombe) and set ablaze 91 houses and they moved toward (custom) corner in Gulu. They planted antipersonnel mines as they moved toward (Nalibi) (custom) corner road and went to [words indistinct] and planted more mines in the area. The bandits retreated toward (Opitia) forest in (Pochambako) and are being pursued by the UPDF.

The press release says [words indistinct] and the antipersonnel mines have hit two women and [words indistinct] were admitted at [name indistinct] hospital.

The release said the government condemns this terrorist attack by the bandits against unarmed civilians and assured the public of its resolve to eradicate this menace of the bandits [words indistinct].

South Africa: ANC's Zuma—Hit Squads Prepare To Kill ANC Leaders at Easter

MB3003154596 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1100 GMT 30 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] KwaZulu/Natal ANC leader Jacob Zuma has alleged that hit squads are being trained to attack and kill ANC leaders during the Easter weekend. Mr. Zuma was speaking at the ANC's provincial general council meeting in Durban today.

However, Mr. Zuma could not elaborate on the allegations, but hinted that the ANC had stepped up precautionary measures to protect its leadership.

South Africa: 'Bigger' Cabinet Reshuffle Reportedly To Occur in May

MB2903203996 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 29 Mar 96 pp 1, 2

[Report by Jovial Rantao and Mondli Makhanya]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pallo Jordan, dropped from the Cabinet in yesterday's reshuffle, is expected to be reappointed to a more senior post in an even bigger change to the Cabinet in May, government sources have told THE STAR.

The May reshuffle is also expected to draw Constitutional Assembly chairman Cyril Ramaphosa into the Cabinet.

In the shake-up — the first since the April 1994 election — president Nelson Mandela closed down the Reconstruction and Development Programme office. He allocated some of its responsibilities to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and some to new Finance Minister Trevor Manuel, who will succeed retired Chris Liebenberg. Manuel, the ANC Minister of Trade and Industry, will in turn be replaced by Liebenberg's deputy, Alec Erwin.

THE STAR understands that yesterday's reshuffle was largely because of Mbeki's efforts to reorganise economic ministries so that they can play a major role in the implementation of the Government's economic programmes.

Jordan was replaced by Jay Naidoo as Minister of Telecommunications, Posts and Broadcasting. Mandela was faced with the conundrum of having one more ANC minister than allowed by the interim constitution, and decided to drop Jordan.

Government insiders said Jordan was merely being "put aside" pending a re-evaluation and reorganisation of the Cabinet. Ramaphosa is expected to be given a senior Cabinet post when the Constitutional Assembly completes its task of penning SA's [South Africa] final constitution in May, the sources said.

Jordan is likely to obtain the Foreign Affairs Ministry and incumbent Alfred Nzo to retire. Mandela is expected to announce the reshuffle during the second anniversary of his presidency on May 10.

Mandela yesterday appointed three women to the position of deputy minister. Gill Marcus, ANC chairman of Parliament's joint standing committee on finance, was appointed Deputy [words indistinct] becomes the new Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry.

With the appointment of more women to senior positions, "we have taken another step to address the national challenge of the emancipation and empowerment of women", Mandela said.

SAPA [South African Press Agency] reports that Liebenberg said yesterday that the reason he had quit was that he would never be able to produce a budget to satisfy the Democratic Party [DP]. His remark drew howls of laughter from MPs and delighted grins from the DP.

Liebenberg later said at a press conference he was totally at ease with the Government's fiscal and economic policy and that his resignation was not based on any difference of opinion.

"I wanted to find the right time (to resign). I am totally at ease with the vision, the mission and the strategies in place."

Nor had there been a suggestion from anyone that he should leave.

"I just so firmly believe that everything is in place for the strategy to go forward and that it really would have been superfluous for me as a non-politician to be around when you have the talent sitting on the sidelines that can do the job that needs to be done." He had given Mandela the undertaking that he would not take up another position in the private sector "until I am well and gone". "So I am unemployed, although I'm too young to stay at home" Liebenberg said.

His successor, Manuel, said he and Marcus would have to work hard to "prove the skeptics wrong", as there was no margin for error.

"The policy framework is in place, the decisions have largely been taken and it's now shifting gear to implementation ... it's about getting bang for the buck.

"It's about struggling for better co-ordination between fiscal and monetary policies along the same framework that has been set out to this much-praised Budget." Manuel told a press conference. He declined to say whether the lifting of exchange controls would be one of his first actions.

Marcus said the big advantage facing the new appointees was that they were a team and were merely continuing what they had done in the past. "Perhaps for some of us who are accustomed to be the poacher and it might be a bit difficult to be the game warden initially — but that will also be part of the challenge."

Mandela's changes to the Cabinet received mixed reactions from political parties. The National Party (NP) congratulated the new appointees but said it was concerned about Mandela's decision not to appoint a politically neutral specialist to the finance post.

"The National Party's concern does not relate to the person that President Mandela has appointed to the finance portfolio.

It arises from the principle that both the National Party and the ANC accepted ... that the minister of finance should be an internationally respected expert in his field and that he should be politically neutral," the NP said in a statement.

The Freedom Front regretted Liebenberg's retirement and expressed concern that Manuel would "fiddle" with the approach of his predecessors.

However, the party praised the appointment of Marcus. The DP said Liebenberg's resignation was ill-timed and would do nothing to help settle financial markets already made jittery by rumours about Mandela's health.

Judge President of the Cape Mr Justice Gerald Friedman swore in John Mavuso, Minister of General Affairs; Patrick McKenzie, Minister of Welfare and Population Development; Fanus Schoeman, Deputy Minister of Land Affairs; and Camerer at Tuynhuys yesterday evening.

South Africa: Mandela Not Ruling Out 'Future' Cabinet Reshuffles

MB2903170396 Johannesburg SAFM Radio Network in English 1500 GMT 29 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Nelson Mandela says there will be no further cabinet reshuffles for now, but he has not ruled out such a possibility in future. He told journalists in Pretoria today that in any cabinet there was always an opportunity for reshuffle. Mr. Mandela said he was satisfied with the performance of the present cabinet. He said yesterday's reshuffle had been the result of the resignation of Mr. Chris Liebenberg as finance minister. Mr. Mandela also said he had taken that opportunity to appoint more women to senior executive positions.

South Africa: Mandela Says No More Cabinet Reshuffles Coming Up

MB3103140096 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1135 GMT 31 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] CAPE TOWN March 31 SAPA — Another Cabinet reshuffle was not in the offing, President Nelson Mandela said on Sunday.

Speaking to journalists after a choir competition in Cape Town, Mandela said he did not envisage another Cabinet change soon.

On Posts and Telecommunications Minister Pallo Jordan's axing from Cabinet, he said it was a step that "I regretted very much". "He is one of our most competent ministers but I had to comply with the Constitution." Finance Minister Chris Liebenberg's resignation and the ensuing Cabinet reshuffle had resulted in the ANC having an extra minister than constitutionally allowed.

Mandela said he was discussing Jordan's new assignment but did not elaborate. It is understood that Jordan has already declined an ambassadorial post to Japan and is considering heading a parastatal. Speculation that he may be Transnet's [public transportation company] new chief would put him in direct competition with ANC MP Saki Macazoma, who sources said would resign from Parliament to take up the post.

Mandela said although he had consulted the ANC's top structure about the Cabinet changes, the decision to drop Jordan was "mine and mine alone".

South Africa: PAC Welcomes Cabinet Changes

MB2903123196 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1218 GMT 29 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] CAPE TOWN March 29 SAPA — Although Chris Liebenberg was a "good person" and probably a competent banker, he was not a suitable Finance Minister for a democratic South Africa, the PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] said in a statement on Friday.

Welcoming the cabinet changes, the party said he was an "outsider" who was not accountable to any party or political constituency. The PAC hoped that in succeeding Liebenberg, Trevor Manuel would continue to serve the needy and the poor.

The party regretted what appeared to be the virtual abandonment of the RDP [Reconstruction and Development Program], the statement said. This might send a wrong signal to the people as to the government's concern for their welfare.

South Africa: Constitutional Negotiators Begin 3-Day Private Talks

*MB0104092096 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0908 GMT 01 Apr 96*

[Report by Dirk van Zyl]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town April 1 SAPA — South Africa's constitution-writing process entered a crucial final phase on Monday with the start of a three-day session of private talks among senior negotiators of almost all parties in the Constitutional Assembly [CA] to resolve outstanding issues.

They hope to report agreement to the CA's Constitutional Committee on Thursday. Legal experts will then prepare a final draft of the new constitution for tabling and debate after the Easter recess on April 15.

The negotiators — from all Parliamentary parties except the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] which is boycotting the CA — started meeting behind closed doors at a secluded venue near Arniston on the Cape South West Coast on Monday.

Among outstanding issues they hope to resolve are provincial powers, death penalty, right to strike and lock-out, appointment of judges, property clause, state funding for schools based on language and culture, proposed multi-party participation in the executive, the principle of self-determination, local government, and traditional authorities.

Plenary sessions of the 490-member CA have been scheduled from April 22 to May 8 for the adoption process to meet the May 9 deadline set by the interim Constitution for passing South Africa's final constitution.

CA chairman Cyril Ramaphosa has repeatedly stated he is confident a final constitution will be adopted by the deadline with full consensus among the parties. But if it is not passed by a two-thirds majority by May 9, the CA's seven-member panel of experts will be asked in the next month to try to resolve deadlocks.

The Constitutional Court is to examine the constitution at a special sitting in June to satisfy itself that it meets the 34 constitutional principles enshrined in the interim Constitution.

If it finds it does not, it will throw it back with full reasons to the CA to rectify it. CA spokesmen have stressed, however, that this is unlikely, as South Africa's "best constitutional brains" have been employed in an advisory capacity throughout the constitution-writing process.

South Africa: COSATU To Strengthen Alliance With ANC, Aid Swazi Unions

*MB3003191796 Johannesburg SABC 3 Television
Network in English 1800 GMT 30 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] COSATU's [Congress of South African Trade Unions] 2 million members plan to take to the streets this year if their demands are not met. The federation is demanding that trade union security be enshrined in the new constitution. COSATU has also resolved that its alliance with the ANC and the SACP [South African Communist Party] be retained.

[Begin recording] [SABC reporter Snuki Zikalala] After three days of deliberations, COSATU's Central Executive Committee admitted that there were shortcomings in the alliance. The Central Executive Committee resolved that the alliance be strengthened, and that proper structures at grass-roots level be established.

A resolution of opening membership to other, nonaffiliated unions was made. COSATU's aim is expansion before their congress next year and for unions to be organized on a sectoral basis. An amount of 80,000 rands has been set aside to help the South African Domestic Workers' Union, currently facing a leadership crisis. The union has suspended its president and general secretary. COSATU said its members will campaign vigorously for their rights to be enshrined in the new constitution.

[COSATU General Secretary Sam Shilowa, in progress] ...no lock-out provision in the constitution; the property clause; the issue of the trade union security; the right to life, and so forth; that we do not abandon mass mobilization of our own people. [passage indistinct] Material help will be given to the Swaziland Federation of Trade Unions. A meeting has been planned with the king of Swaziland. This is Snuki Zikalala reporting for SABC television news in Johannesburg. [end recording]

South Africa: FF 'Optimistic' About Talks With ANC on Volkstaat

*MB3103203696 Johannesburg RAPPORT
in Afrikaans 31 Mar 96 p 13*

[Report by Anne-Marie Mishke]

[FBIS Translated Text] There will be no volkstaat [Afrikaner homeland] when the constitution has been finalized within six weeks. Not even a 10th province, as proposed by the Afrikaner Homeland Council. But the Freedom Front [FF] is optimistic it will bargain for a good "second prize" and not return to its voters empty-handed.

FF senior negotiator Corne Mulder says his party still is directly engaged with the ANC on self-determination. Discussions will continue this weekend. The whole issue also will be on the agenda when negotiators from all parties meet from Monday to Wednesday in Arniston to try and clear obstacles to the final constitution.

There has been progress, he says, not in the direction of a volkstaat, but with a package of constitutional stipulations, ordinary legislation, and agreements between the FF and the ANC that will promote self-determination. The FF hopes the possibility of a volkstaat will not be excluded sometime in the future, and that the package even will indicate a process as to how a volkstaat will ultimately be attained.

Mulder does not, at this stage, want to furnish details about the package as it has not yet been finalized. However, he has confirmed that some form of cultural council through which the Afrikaner will have input in his own affairs is on the cards.

It is probably for this reason that the National Party (NP) could not make headway in its negotiations with the ANC on its proposal for a cultural commission in which representatives from all cultural groups would serve. This commission should to be made up of the respective cultural groups' councils.

"It's almost a year now since we placed the idea of a cultural commission and cultural councils on the table, and our talks with the ANC have not yielded anything. Each time they throw the ball to the sideline," says NP cultural commission negotiator Frik van Heerden.

That's how it's going to be, says Corne Mulder. He suspects the ANC intends to first conclude discussions with the FF before attending to NP proposals.

[Word indistinct] is being assumed in ANC ranks that the FF, which at the last minute joined the 1994 general elections exactly because a clause on self-determination was included in the interim Constitution, should be rewarded with whatever will be written in the new constitution on self-determination.

South Africa: NP Said Concerned About Meeting on Provincial Powers

MB3103162896 Johannesburg RAPPORT
in Afrikaans 31 Mar 96 p 4

[Report by Anne-Marie Mischke]

[FBIS Translated Text] All nine provinces have their eyes focused on the Cape coastal town of Arniston to see how constitutional negotiators are going to handle the issue of provincial powers.

And National Party (NP) caucus members and Nationalists from the Western Cape, the only NP province, are watching their party's negotiators very closely after two weeks of uneasiness in the party over the future of provinces.

It took detailed explanations and prolonged question sessions at the NP's Constitutional Committee meeting, attended by among others, Western Cape Premier Hermus Kriel, to allay the anxiety.

Concern was reflected in a speech by Kriel, and by an article in DIE BURGER in which it was implied that only the Democratic Party was trying to oppose what is seen as the negotiators' plundering of provincial powers.

The Democratic Party further stirred the pot when its leader, Tony Leon, recently complained to NP leader F.W. de Klerk about the direction provincial negotiations were heading in, and the NP's part in this.

Eventually, confirms NP negotiator Frik van Heerden, "there were many questions." The questions mainly revolved around so-called concurrent powers, powers that central government and the provinces as it were, would share; and the right of central government to have the last say in certain circumstances. Due to an apparent misunderstanding, there's a perception that the premiers would ultimately be stripped of their powers, and will not even be in a position to call elections in their own provinces. In short, it was said that the majority in central government, the ANC, will in the long run have all the say, including in the provinces.

But at the NP's meeting of the Constitutional Committee the party's secretary general, Roelf Meyer, elaborated on the party's position on provinces. At the end of it all there were no more objections, and all declared their willingness to leave the entire issue to the negotiators.

Kriel told RAPPORT his objections were not directed at the NP and its negotiators, but against the ANC.

This approach boils down to the fact that it was not realistic for provinces to get exclusive powers, [passage indistinct] happy will depend largely on what is finalized at Arniston this week.

The NP negotiator on provincial powers, Piet Marais, is optimistic. "I am not concerned. We are busy with something exciting. People should therefore not allow their nerves to run away with them."

More than just provincial powers are, of course, at stake this week at Arniston. Among other things, negotiators want to agree on issues such as property rights, the right for employers to lock out striking employees, education, language, the death penalty and abortion, the

appointment of judges to the Constitutional Court, the powers of a national attorney general, and the national emblem.

South Africa: Resigning NP Minister 'Worried' About Party's Future

MB3103184896 Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans 31 Mar 96 p 6

[Report by Eugene Gunning]

[FBIS Translated Text] A senior National Party [NP] member this week had harsh words for his party: "The National Party is walking with its head too high in the clouds. If it continues on its current path it won't be able to score tries [equivalent of touchdowns in rugby] under the goal posts because it will bump its head against the cross bar!"

This is the warning from resigning NP Deputy Land Affairs Minister Tobie Meyer to NP Secretary General Roelf Meyer. In a candid discussion with RAPPORT, Tobie Meyer lifted the veil on his stormy political past. He said he was finished with politics, and this weekend he was heading for his farm in Humansdorp to concentrate on farming.

But he says he is not bitter, just very worried about the party's future. "Red lights are flashing for the NP."

He said he held "straight talks" with leader F.W. de Klerk last week. Colleagues said on 28 March, when the NP caucus bid him farewell, he "stirred certain issues that bother him." Meyer stated frankly: "The NP's leadership is out of touch with its supporters. There are serious problems in the NP."

"It doesn't help to live in the clouds thinking everything is fine. Individuals are regarding themselves as more important than the party. Where is the old NP team effort? It doesn't help to make yourself believe you are on the way to the goal line while in actual fact you're playing backward."

Meyer also refers candidly to the NP's study groups in Parliament. "Are we sure that the study groups are functioning effectively? It is the right place to jointly formulate policy with leadership. I'm also concerned that we cannot operate as an effective opposition. The ANC opens up its own paths as it wishes. The Sarafina debacle is a good example. Let's give our supporters a hearing. They are, after all, our power base."

"The NP has a beautiful vision on paper, but what is the visible product that we offer supporters? What are we actually marketing to our people?"

"But I don't think the NP's problems lie in its policy. It's its management style. And this has to change before the NP falls deeper into a quagmire."

He considers his own situation: When he was asked to make way for others, he agreed. "At that stage I believed it was important for the sake of the NP. It was a difficult decision, because a few more issues were waiting on my desk. But then things happened that disillusioned me."

"The NP leadership must guard against playing with the lives and future of its people."

South Africa: Contralesa Rejects ANC Disciplinary Action Against Leader

MB3103140296 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1207 GMT 31 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] JOHANNESBURG March 31 SAPA — The Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa [Contralesa] on Sunday rejected disciplinary action against its president, Chief Phatekile Holomisa, by the African National Congress.

"Contralesa rejects with contempt the disciplinary action against the president of Contralesa," said a resolution read at a press conference by its general-secretary, Chief Shilumgwa Mhinga. He was addressing the media at the end of a three-day special meeting of the organization's national general council. The council maintained that Holomisa's statements and actions were made in his capacity as Contralesa's leader and spokesman. It expressed full support in his leadership.

It said Contralesa would continue to fight for the institution of traditional leadership and for unity among traditional leaders, irrespective of politics.

Mhinga said the issue dated back to allegations, which he dubbed false, that Holomisa had held a secret meeting with chiefs supporting the Inkatha Freedom Party, as well as certain statements he had made on local government and other issues.

At its meeting the Contralesa council also passed a resolution condemning the exclusion of traditional leaders in the constitution-making process. It said this was contrary to decisions taken during the constitutional negotiations at the World Trade Centre. It was the meeting's view that the provisions of the interim constitution in respect of the role of traditional leaders should be retained and expanded upon in the new constitution.

Expanding upon the resolution, Mhinga said the issue would be taken further by sending a copy of Contralesa's resolution on the matter to the Constitutional Assembly and by taking it up in a meeting of Constitutional Assembly chairman Cyril Ramaphosa.

Contralesa also demanded the immediate transfer of ownership of tribal land to traditional authorities and said Parliament would have to enact the necessary legislation. It also wanted urgent clarity on how the R15,000 [rand] government housing grants could be made available to people living on communal land so that they could develop their holdings, as there was a present bias in favour of urban dwellers. Contralesa said the state had to devise ways of making financial assistance available to people living on communal land, and added that as a [words indistinct] of practice, Parliament should refer all land-related Bills to it for its comment.

The meeting also resolved to call for an independent commission of inquiry into chieftaincy disputes. Expanding on this, [word indistinct] said Contralesa was referring here to leaders who had been removed when they failed to carry out the bidding of the former apartheid government only to be replaced by "impostors".

Contralesa also wanted traditional leaders recognised as instruments in the delivery of the reconstruction and development programme, and said that RDP [Reconstruction and Development Program] forums and committees should work in conjunction with traditional leaders in this regard.

Present at the meeting at one of her first public appearances since her divorce from President Nelson Mandela, was Contralesa treasurer Winnie Mandela.

South Africa: Inland Revenue, Customs Officially Merged

*MB0104100696 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0936 GMT 1 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pretoria April 1 SAPA — Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise are no more. On Monday they were officially merged into a single revenue-collecting body — the South African Revenue Services [SARS] in line with a Cabinet decision taken in October last year.

SARS will be managed according to modern business principles under a chief executive officer and a board of directors, the Finance Ministry said in a statement.

The revenue services' systems and structures which have not kept abreast of changing circumstances are to be overhauled. Reforms being finalised were communication, financial management, human resources, corporate image, business management and information technology.

SARS will be run by a management committee until newly-appointed chief executive officer Piet Liebenberg

assumes office on June 1 and the board is appointed. The committee will be co-ordinated by former Eskom [Electricity Supply Commission] director Dr George Lindeque.

"Judging by other countries' experience of reforming their revenue services, changes would take several years to implement," the department said.

SARS will aim at an improved, transparent and client-orientated service to ensure optimum and equitable revenue collection.

"Government has increased the budget of SARS by 37 percent in 1996/97. Never before has there been such political backing for the much needed reforms," outgoing Finance Minister Chris Liebenberg said. "The challenges are immense, but with the renewed commitment of SARS staff, local and international experts and the newly appointed CEO [chief executive officer], I am confident the new SARS will succeed."

South Africa: Demilitarization of Correctional Services Begins

*MB0104091396 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0737 GMT 1 Apr 96*

[Statement issued by the African National Congress on the SAPA PR Wire Service]

[FBIS Transcribed Text]

PRESS STATEMENT RE. THE DEMILITARISATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

On behalf of the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services I would like to wish the Commissioner of Correctional Services, Commissioner Henk Bruyn, and the Department of Correctional Services all of the best with the demilitarisation process which is commencing today. This is an important step in changing the militaristic character of the Department to that of a civilian institution.

One is well aware that this is no easy matter for many members in the Department who have worked long and hard to gain their various ranks. However, as members of Parliament we want to assure them that we have great appreciation for their hard work, and the important contribution that they are making towards the new, democratic South Africa. Their status and importance to our country is in no way diminished by becoming a civilian Department, in fact it contributes to their significance because it so clearly demonstrates the new style and spirit of our democratic Nation.

Demilitarisation is an important step in the process of changing the character and culture of the Department of Correctional Services. This is only the beginning of a deep and comprehensive transformation process that has to unfold in the Department of Correctional Services. We appreciate that with it will come many challenges and difficulties, but we have the fullest confidence in their ability to handle these problems. The Portfolio Committee is available to assist within our abilities and powers, realising that the process that led to demilitarisation has been a difficult one and not without mistakes. However, we urge all members of the Department to give their full co-operation to the demilitarisation process. It is important that this change to a civilian Department must at all times be accompanied by discipline, effective services, and the continuation of the maximum protection — and improvement of the protection — of the public.

Our best wishes and support accompany the Department of Correctional Services on this significant day, and also for the difficult task that lies ahead.

Issued by: Carl Niehaus, MP Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services

South Africa: Police Institute New Measures To Fight Violence in KwaZulu

*MB3103142496 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1354 GMT 31 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PRETORIA March 31 SAPA — Additional measures, including rewards of up to R1 million [rands], the posting of more investigative units, and the declaration of all politically motivated massacres as crimes of national priority, are being introduced in KwaZulu-Natal ahead of the forthcoming local government elections, national police commissioner George Fivaz said on Sunday.

In a statement Fivaz said that where automatic weapons such as AK47 rifles or R4 rifles were used in a politically-motivated massacre — defined as an incident in which three or more people are killed for political reasons — payment of the rewards would be linked to the recovery of the weapons used. More national investigative task units consisting of experienced detectives would be urgently established and sent in to boost the existing investigative efforts into massacres in the province. Such units would eventually be based permanently in the midlands, south coast and northern and central areas of the province.

Fivaz said the successful bringing to book of perpetrators of political mass murders would in large measure depend upon the willingness of communities to identify and isolate them. To get community co-operation and

counteract the high level of intimidation taking place, the police would speed up the establishment of smooth-running community police forums.

Efforts to fight this kind of crime included implementation of a witness protection programme. Safe houses had already been identified for this purpose. A special investigative project would be launched to determine the potential for political violence flowing from specialist military, para-military and police training given to a spectrum of individuals in the past.

The steps being taken should be seen as complementary to those already in force, Fivaz said.

South Africa: Community Cooperation Sought To End KwaZulu/Natal Violence

*MB0'04084796 Johannesburg SABC 2 Television
Network in Afrikaans 0430 GMT 1 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A reward of up to 1 million rand for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone involved in politically motivated massacres is one of the intensive measures to be taken by the police to end violence in KwaZulu/Natal. Police Commissioner George Fivaz announced in Pretoria that it is of prime importance that mass murders in this province be eliminated before the local elections. He said that additional investigative task units consisting of experienced detectives will be sent there to boost existing investigative efforts in KwaZulu/Natal massacres. A special investigative project will be launched to determine the potential for political violence. A witness protection program for community cooperation will be introduced to counteract intimidation.

South Africa: IFP Youth Criticizes ANC Statements at Donnybrook Funeral

*MB0104075196 Johannesburg Saffm Radio Network
in English 0500 GMT 1 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] Youth Brigade has criticized the ANC for making inflammatory statements which could hinder the peace process in KwaZulu/Natal. The brigade's national organizer, Mr. Otto Kunene, was reacting to a speech made by the ANC's Steve Tshwete at the funeral of the victims of the Donnybrook massacre in the Midlands yesterday. Mr. Tshwete had said the IFP was a banded party under the frustrated ambitions of leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Mr. Kunene said the ANC used the funeral as a platform to launch a scathing attack on the IFP and Chief Buthelezi. All 11 victims of the Donnybrook massacre were buried on [words indistinct] hilltop yesterday

in a funeral marked by strict security. Police and army personnel formed a ring of protection around the mourners because of fears that the gunmen who had killed the 11 could return to disrupt the funeral. About 2,000 people attended the funeral.

South Africa: 'Major Breakthrough' Reported Between Rival Taxi Groups

*MB2903181296 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1651 GMT 29 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PORT ELIZABETH March 29 SAPA — A major breakthrough has been brokered among the warring Port Elizabeth taxi factions, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio reported on Friday.

Spokesperson for the three main local taxi organisations, Howard Hans, said taxi bosses on Friday signed an agreement to use all ranks together.

Hans said the agreement stipulated that 17 ranks would be overseen by management committees comprising the three organisations. Two marshals would supervise each rank under strict supervision by the management committees. A disciplinary committee has also been put into place. However, the taxi bosses still have to inform their drivers of the agreement.

South Africa: Mbeki Notes Need for Affirmative Action To Change Nation

MB3003134196 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 0500 GMT 30 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Deputy President Thabo Mbeki says South Africa could, as he puts it, explode again unless the government introduces affirmative action to achieve a truly nonracist and nonsexist society.

Speaking at Somerset West, he said that if the government failed to intervene, society would explode if the majority saw that nothing had changed in their lives. It was impossible, he said, for this society to generate a mechanism to achieve nonracism.

Mr. Mbeki said tokenism, which was already evident in the private sector, was unable to achieve nonracism and nonsexism.

South Africa: EU Demands Return of 14 Million Rand Used To Fund AIDS Play

MB2903200296 Johannesburg SABC 3 Television Network in English 1800 GMT 29 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Sarafina II controversy is not about to go away. The European Union now says it wants the 14 million rands in AIDS money, used to finance the play, back. A spokesman for the EU says

the union never authorized the funds. This week the ANC blocked moves in Parliament by minority parties to investigate the finances of the controversial AIDS musical. Then, an ANC majority outvoted calls to set up a parliamentary committee to investigate the matter. Now an EU spokesman says only 7 million rands had been allocated for media communication in the project. He says normal procedures had not been followed in regard to the play. These factors, he says, indicated that there appeared to be a serious misuse of funds. The play is already the subject of an investigation by the public protector and the auditor general.

South African Press Review for 29 Mar

MB2903150696

[FBIS Report]

BUSINESS DAY

ANC Relationship With IFP 'Moderates' — Commenting on the 28 March march through Johannesburg by 10,000 Inkatha Freedom Party, IFP, supporters Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 29 March in a page-18 editorial says the IFP should "take a look at itself and its behaviour." Its attempt to "advance the ridiculous fiction that the march was nothing to do with it was both irresponsible and disingenuous." BUSINESS DAY believes the intention of this "pretence" is firstly to "advance the fiction of an entire Zulu nation opposed to the ANC, when in fact a large proportion of Zulu-speaking people support the party," and secondly, to "shrug off responsibility should anything go wrong." The paper questions the behaviour of IFP MP Themba Khoza who was "at worst, deliberately whipping up emotions so that a confrontation would become a stronger possibility." However, march organizers "took a responsible view in their negotiations with the police and other authorities and minimised the carrying of dangerous weapons by their supporters." This should be a signal to the ANC that "there is, within the IFP, a strong band of leadership open to reason" and the ANC needs to think about how to conduct its relationship with the IFP "in a way that strengthens party moderates rather than the hardliners."

NEW NATION

Ban of Display of Cultural Weapons Welcomed — Government's decision to ban the carrying of cultural weapons in the city center "cannot be faulted when considered in the wider context of its responsibility to maintaining peace," declares Johannesburg NEW NATION in English on 29 March in a page-10 editorial. "It is nonsense to suggest that because firearms were largely responsible for the many murders committed

in KwaZulu/Natal, the cultural weapons ban was ill-advised." Battle axes and spears "can inflict serious enough injuries." Therefore, the government's decision to ban cultural weapons during the IFP march on 28 March is "welcomed." "No one doubted that the decision would inflame emotions, and it would have been naive to expect Inkatha to forego a chance at exploiting the issue for reasons of political expediency. But to cite the heightening of tensions around the ban in support of claims that the ban was ill-advised misses the point. So too do concerns about the supposed lack of capacity among the security forces to enforce the ban."

South African Press Review for 30 Mar

MB3003153296

[FBIS Report]

SATURDAY STAR

IFP Should Down Weapons — Johannesburg **SATURDAY STAR** in English, in its 30 March editorial on page 8, notes the relief that greeted the relatively peaceful march on 28 March by Zulus through Johannesburg. "There are, however, causes for misgiving. The event was occasioned by the second anniversary of the Shell House killings, an outrage in which people were killed in the city centre and that has yet to reach a legal conclusion, or even get to court. Ordinary South Africans interested in justice being served are entitled to ask when, if ever, this case will be settled. Or whether justice is, in fact, being served." The editorial then criticizes the

Inkatha Freedom Party, IFP, for its continued efforts to inflame the situation and provoke reactions, including the carrying of now-banned traditional weapons: "The IFP sits in Parliament on the strength of its national support. To defy that is to defy the people of South Africa. The Shell House probe must now come to a head and the IFP must put away its weapons. Two wrongs do not make a right."

South African Press Review for 31 Mar

MB3103162796

[FBIS Report]

SUNDAY TIMES

ANC Clears Hurdle With Cabinet Changes — "President Mandela's first cabinet reshuffle has the mark of a considered bid to prepare the country for the inevitable dissolution of the government of national unity," says an editorial on page 26 of the 31 March Johannesburg **SUNDAY TIMES** in English. "Always central to the stability of the country during that process was the question of stewardship of the critical portfolio of finance." Noting that ANC member Trevor Manuel is the "first real political appointment," the editorial says that the "toughest judge of all, the market," ruled in favor of the appointment. It concludes: "Possibly one of the most problematic issues accompanying the inevitable dissolution of the government of national unity has thus already been accomplished painlessly."

Angola

Angola: Government, UNITA Military Chiefs Meet in Luanda

MB2903202996 Luanda Radio Nacional Network
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 29 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Government and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] military chiefs have resumed talks on the formation of the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA). Generals Joao Baptista Matos and Luis Wyio met in Luanda on 29 March for about an hour to discuss the agenda for a subsequent meeting on 31 March. Although Gen. Wyio declined to speak to newsmen, Government Gen. De Matos had this to say:

[Begin De Matos recording] The meeting was intended to hear UNITA's response to a number of outstanding issues. First, we wanted to decide which UNITA generals would take up the posts extended to that organization, the ways in which UNITA members would join the FAA, and under what conditions the FAA's Fourth Branch would operate. We will hold further meetings to clarify these issues, but I believe a definitive solution will be found over the next few days. [end recording]

Joint Commission sources say the government is willing to begin accepting demobilized UNITA soldiers into FAA ranks, pending the quartering of at least 20,000 UNITA men. A total of 26,000 Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola soldiers are scheduled to join the Army, 100 the Navy, and 200 the Air Force. The remainder will either be assigned to the Fourth Branch, a group tasked with national reconstruction operations, or be relieved from duty. Government soldiers are also scheduled to join the Fourth Commission.

Angola: Official Reaffirms UNITA's Commitment to Peace Accord

MB0104100796 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo
Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 1 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] General Abilio Kamalata Numa, Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] Northern Region commander, has reaffirmed the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola's [UNITA] commitment to a scrupulous observance of the Lusaka peace accord, particularly with regard to troop confinement.

Speaking to the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel at Negage Airport yesterday, immediately after his arrival from Bailundo, Gen. Numa called on the government to leave the positions its forces occupied late last year.

The FALA Northern Region commander led a high ranking team to Bailundo, where he has been since attending the party's 30th anniversary celebrations on 13 March. [passage omitted]

The FALA Northern Region Command is worried about the infiltration of Angolan Armed Forces soldiers in the Aid Coordination Unit's [UCA] operations. It is concerned that an UCA-chartered aircraft was carrying FAA noncommissioned officer Wilson Eugenio Jaime da Silva on a flight from Luanda on 29 March. The aircraft was supposed to be ferrying [word indistinct] equipment for the confinement of UNITA troops. Da Silva's military identification document shows he is an active FAA soldier with identification code number 47064593 and serves in the (?PS) military unit as a mechanics expert.

Sources in the area say UCA was called on to review the status of its staff members so no doubts arise concerning its humanitarian aims.

Angola: UNITA Radio Tallies Soldiers Reporting to Assembly Areas

MB3103154796 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo
Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 31 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Text] UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] military forces continue to report to assembly areas in southern, central, and northern Angola.

The UNITA General Staff reports that 993 soldiers had been quartered in Huila Province's Ngove assembly area by 27 March. An additional 235 soldiers reported to the assembly area on 29 March, bringing the total number of quartered soldiers to 1,228. On 30 March, the number of quartered UNITA soldiers rose to 1,241. A total of 366 families also had reported to the area. No soldiers will report to the assembly area on 31 March due to problems with the bridge over the Cuando River.

A total of 100 soldiers — 73 armed, reported to the Quibala assembly area on 29 March. The number of quartered soldiers has since risen to 160.

Zaire Province's Ntucu assembly area was opened on 25 March, but the delay in UNITA soldiers reporting to the assembly has been due to lack of confirmation whether Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] withdrew from Cungu, Quelo, and Quiximba. The UNITA Military Forces General Staff has ordered the Northern Region Command to confirm with UN Angola Verification Mission-3 whether FAA soldiers have withdrawn. The FAA has left a military unit in the area, purporting to consist of policemen.

There are reports that food and medicine shortages continue to be reported in Ngove and Quibala assembly areas. Families of quartered soldiers also have gone without food, forcing soldiers to leave the assembly areas in search of food.

Angola: UNITA Says Reports of Ebola Outbreak in Benguela 'False'

MB3003154696 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 30 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Dr. Rube Sikato, National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] health secretary, said today that reports of an ebola outbreak in [name indistinct] district, controlled by UNITA, in Benguela Province toward the end of last year were completely false. According to Dr. Sikato [words indistinct] all the 23 suspect cases were considered negative by the institute [words indistinct] where the World Health Organization sent tests. [passage indistinct].

Mozambique

Mozambique: Frelimo Deputy Rejects Other Parties in Defense Council

MB0104124596 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 1 Apr 96

[Report by Arao Cuambe in the Assembly of the Republic]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Mozambique Liberation Front Deputy Teodato Hunguana has said it would be logical to expand the National Defense and Security Council to include members of civilian society only if a government of national unity were in force in the country. He said this when the Assembly was discussing the government's proposal concerning the creation of the National Defense and Security Council, adding this was an attempt to introduce a government of national unity through the back door.

[Begin Hunguana recording] Many questions have been raised here in connection with the National Defense and Security Council's composition. They would be logical if the president of the republic had created a government of national unity when he formed his government. Given that this is not the case — I will not comment here whether this was a correct or incorrect decision because it is another matter altogether — the inclusion of members of civilian society or parties in the council is tantamount to introducing the idea of a government of national unity through the back door. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Mozambique: Renamo Deputy on Need for Defense Council To Be Inclusive

MB0104125396 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 1 Apr 96

[Report by Arao Cuambe from the Assembly of the Republic]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [begin recording] [Cuambe] Deputies at the Assembly of the Republic are still far from agreement on the National Defense and Security Council's composition. We have Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] deputy Almeida Tambara. Deputy Tambara: At one point, a Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] deputy said by supporting the presence of members of civilian society in the council, Renamo is actually trying to introduce a government of national unity through the back door. Would you care to make a brief comment?

[Tambara] First, I would like to make it clear that we do not intend to introduce a government of national unity through the back door. Our concern is to satisfy the nation's concerns. We believe that it is important to include those principally responsible for resolving the people's and the nation's problems. From our point of view, there is the need to include all branches of defense and Assembly members to help settle those matters, especially because this is a consultative body which should be quite inclusive. This is what happens in other countries. Portugal is one example. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Mozambique: Minister on Alleged Presence of Armed Men in Zambezia

MB3003161596 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 29 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Interior Minister Manuel Antonio began a working visit to Manica Province yesterday. In an interview with Radio Mozambique, Manuel Antonio said the issue of the abolition of entry visas between Mozambique and Zimbabwe is still being studied by the two countries' governments. [passage omitted]

On the alleged presence of 3,000 men in Namuli, Zambezia Province, Manuel Antonio said:

[Begin Antonio recording] That is all we hear. Where exactly are these 3,000 men? Are they armed? Do they possess a base? We do not have answers to all these questions. So we cannot send a force to an area without a thorough investigation. We have to know whether they have a base or they live among the people. As soon as we obtain all the correct information, we will take action. [end recording]

Namibia

Namibia: Police Reportedly Arrest Over 80 Angolans

MB2903204196 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 29 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The Namibian police arrested several Angolans on 29 March, as part of an operation launched in Windhoek a few days ago. Over 80 Angolans in detention in Windhoek could be repatriated. Sebastiao Bassi, Angola's consul general in Namibia, has confirmed the report:

[Begin Bassi recording] The Consulate General today received a great number of complaints from the Angolan community in Windhoek regarding police raids that began on 28 March. Angolans are the main target of the raids.

In view of the complaints, the consulate general has contacted Namibia's Foreign Affairs and Interior Ministries to establish the facts. As no explanation was given, we have made an appointment to see the Interior Ministry's permanent secretary on 31 March because the situation is of great concern to all of us.

We do not know how many Angolans have been detained, but more than 80 Angolans had been arrested before the ongoing operation was launched. Sixty of them will be repatriated over the next few days. According to the Namibian authorities, these Angolans were detained for illegal entry and other reasons, probably theft. The first group could be repatriated on 3 April. [end recording]

Swaziland

Swaziland: Government Reportedly To Return Fokker Jet to Holland

MB3103182396 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND SUNDAY in English 31 Mar 96 pp 1, 2

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Matsapha — The Fokker 100 is going back to Holland, the SUNDAY has established.

When it lands at 4.00 pm this afternoon at the Royal Swazi Airport it will be landing for the last time. The SUNDAY has also established that retrenchment is also looming for the staff there. This is because the number of employees has to be reduced to a number that will be enough for the running of the remaining Fokker 28.

The consultants from the Speedwing Consultancy who were responsible for assessing the whole company will be coming to the country soon on their final mission.

Four pilots were recently retrained on how to fly the Fokker 28 and the SUNDAY has established that more will be trained.

The Fokker was leased to the Royal Swazi by government after its purchase from Holland that sparked controversy in the country.

When the Chief Executive Officer Prince Matanzela was contacted on this issue, he did not want to commit himself. Although he confirmed that the deal between them and Government had come to an end with effect from today he did not want to disclose the reasons.

He said he did not want to comment on this issue because this was the responsibility of the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

He directed further questions to the Minister who could not be reached for comment.

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe: Mugabe Sworn In for Another 6-Year Term as President

MB3003142596 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1147 GMT 30 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] HARARE March 30 SAPA — President Robert Mugabe was on Saturday sworn-in for another six-year term as Zimbabwe's executive president during a colourful ceremony at Rufaro stadium in Harare, ZIANA [ZIMBABWE INTER-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY] national news agency reported.

Some 15,000 people attended the ceremony. Mugabe won a presidential election earlier this month characterised by a low voter turnout and the withdrawal of his two opponents.

He took the oath of loyalty to Zimbabwe and the oath of office before Chief Justice Anthony Gubbay. In a traditional flair to the ceremony, Mugabe received local symbols of power and authority — an axe, leopard skin and a spear from the president of the council of chiefs.

Zimbabwe: Electoral Commission Urges Review of Political Parties Act

MB3003174696 Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 21 Mar 96 p 11

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The issue of funding of political parties and candidates in Zimbabwe requires to be looked into seriously before the next general elections, the Electoral Supervisory Commission [ESC] has suggested in its 1995 parliamentary elections report.

The ESC has also recommended that the current electoral law and related legislation be urgently reviewed to assess its suitability to deliver an election.

The ESC, among other things, also recommended the preparation of a code of ethics or comprehensive

guidelines to the media on election coverage, a thorough examination of the Voters Roll to ensure that it is up to date and accurate and enhanced voter and civic education in the whole electoral process.

The commission said it had received various complaints with regard to the financing of political parties and candidates. The general thrust of the complaints was that the ruling party had an unfair advantage over other contestants in view of the benefits it received under the Political Parties (Finance) Act which guarantees it over \$30 million from state coffers annually.

Some politicians, according to the report, further queried the appropriateness of the Act in a country where independent candidates were allowed to contest an election in addition to the fact that the ruling party also had access to state facilities and resources. This trend was seen as contributing to a playing field that is not level.

"The commission respectfully submits that the availability of resources to political parties and candidates plays a fundamental part in a party or candidate's ability to propagate ideas effectively. In the commission's experience in both by-elections and the general election, the disadvantages faced by the opposition candidates in the field in terms of transport and financial resources were quite evident and pronounced," the report said.

"The commission is therefore persuaded to believe that the issue of the funding of political parties and candidates is one that requires to be looked into seriously before the next election," the report said.

However, the ESC did not suggest how the Political Parties (Finance) Act could be restructured to ensure that other political players benefited.

The commission recommended that the current electoral law be urgently reviewed to assess its suitability to

deliver an election. However, this recommendation was not detailed in the report and did not state how the law could be reformed to benefit all.

The ESC also said an impartial body should be set up and tasked to work jointly with media institutions in coming up with guidelines which should become the code of ethics in election coverage.

Although parties and candidates felt that there was a partisan attitude by the official Press towards the ruling party, deliberate distortion of facts to discredit the opposition, refusal by the state media to publish adverts of the opposition, the ESC said it was satisfied that the press coverage of the election was generally even-handed though not perfect.

The commission said it asked the Ministry of Information for a policy document on media coverage of elections but "regrettably did not receive a response".

The commission said it was the wish of the parties and candidates to have the maximum possible time between proclamation of an election and the holding of the actual election to enable them to have time to mobilise the electorate and create transparency in the whole electoral system.

The report also contains several complaints raised by opposition parties regarding the Voters Roll. It said the state of the Voters Roll has been an issue of constant concern to the present and previous ESCs and recommends a thorough examination of the roll to ensure that it is up to date and setting up of a department in the Registrar-General's office to do electoral work on full time basis.

Benin

Benin: Constitutional Court Denounces Pressure From Soglo

AB3103163296 Cotonou Office de
Radiodiffusion-Television du Benin Radio in French
1930 GMT 30 Mar 96

[Communique issued by the Beninese Constitutional Court in Cotonou on 29 March]

[FBIS Translated Text] After the many forms of pressure, repeated threats, direct attacks such as the machine-gun shots fired on Professor Maurice Glele-Ahanhanzo's house, and the march by activists of the Benin Renaissance Party in the streets of Cotonou chanting hostile slogans against the members of the Constitutional Court, and after the rally organized on 25 March by presidential candidate Nicephore Dieudonne Soglo's camp, Mr. Soglo summoned on 26 and 27 March three members of this institution — Professor Alex Hountondji, vice president; Mr. Pierre Ehoumi; and Prof. Glele-Ahanhanzo.

He held separate conversations in his office with the first two on the presidential election runoff, which he said he had won. The third court member was summoned to Mr. Soglo's residence, where he was told the same thing and given a message for the six other members of the court. Candidate Soglo claimed that numerous forms of pressure from both within the country and from outside were exercised on the Independent National Electoral Commission and on the Constitutional Court, which could influence the election results as announced by the court. He said that in the event that the Constitutional Court's ruling is not in his favor, it had to include in its ruling a recommendation for amnesty or guarantees for an official status for the opposition, as well as definite guarantees against all kinds of legal proceedings and petty administrative hassles for himself, his family, and his aides. He added that if these conditions were not met, there would be a civil war, which would affect everybody.

Furthermore, representatives who assisted the court during the election runoff are currently facing intolerable threats. The members of the Constitutional Court, therefore, wish to bring these serious acts to the attention of the public and international community. The Constitutional Court strongly reaffirms that it will duly continue to accomplish the mission the sovereign people have entrusted it with through the Constitution, in all independence, and in all serenity, within the scope of its activities.

Issued by Mrs. Elizabeth Pognon, president; Mr. Alex Hountondji, vice president; Bruno Ahlonsou, mem-

ber; Pierre Ehoumi, member; Alfred Elegbe, member; Maurice Glele-Ahanhanzo, member; and Hubert Maga, member.

Benin: Former President's Petition for Amnesty Raising Questions

AB3003194596 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 30 Mar 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] [passage omitted] The court has issued a statement accusing Soglo of putting pressure on it. William Wallis asked our Cotonou correspondent, Karim Okanla, what the statement said:

[Begin recording] [Okanla] In the statement, they accused President Soglo of putting pressure on them. The statement said that three members of the Constitutional Court were summoned to President Soglo's office and to his residence as well. The president reportedly asked them to rule in his favor. But the president also reportedly said should the court confirm the results in favor of Mathieu Kerekou, then he should be granted an amnesty not only for himself but also for his family and his close collaborators, meaning his ministers.

[Wallis] Why should President Soglo want an amnesty? What does he mean by an amnesty?

[Okanla] That is exactly the question that is being asked here. People are saying well, this man hasn't been condemned or fined or anything. So some observers are suspecting that the president might fear for some kind of probe in the future.

[Wallis] Since the Constitutional Court has made these accusations against President Soglo, has it been any reaction from him?

[Okanla] Well, there has been reactions from his party. As a matter of fact, I have just talked to Mr. (Nakane Ba), who is the secretary general of the Renaissance Party, President Soglo's party, on his mobile phone and he told me that actually the president never asked for amnesty and that these allegations were being made by ill-intended people bent on destroying President Soglo's image as a true and genuine democrat. Mr. Ba told me actually, the president was just asking the Constitutional Court and the future administration not to embark on a witch hunt, not to embark on a campaign of settling personal accounts in a violent way.

[Wallis] So it seems that President Soglo is rather reluctant to leave office. What does the population feel about this?

[Okanla] To be perfectly honest with you William, people don't really understand. People are saying, well,

Kerekou was defeated back in 1991, and he handed over power peacefully to Nicephore Soglo. Why shouldn't Nicephore Soglo do the same in 1996? The people have spoken and now it is up to the president to hand over power. [end recording]

Benin: Constitutional Court Under Pressure From Outgoing President

*AB3003145196 Paris AFP in French
2245 GMT 29 Mar 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cotonou, 29 Mar (AFP) — The Constitutional Court in Benin last night complained that it has come under pressure from outgoing President Nicephore Soglo, who was beaten by General Mathieu Kerekou in the 18 March presidential elections.

In a communique sent to AFP, the Constitutional Court said that on 26 and 27 March, President Soglo "summoned" three of the seven Constitutional Court members, including Vice President Alex Hountondji, and told them that "numerous forms of pressure from both within the country and from outside" had influenced the "election results."

Mr. Soglo reminded them that he was going to file a petition to the Constitutional Court for the annulment of the elections, according to the communique dated 29 March and signed by the Constitutional Court's seven members, including Elizabeth Pognon, the chairperson.

Furthermore, the outgoing president demanded several guarantees "in the event that the Constitutional Court's ruling is not in his favor." He urged the Constitutional Court to include in its ruling "a recommendation for amnesty, or guarantees for an official status for the opposition, as well as definite guarantees against all kinds of legal proceedings and petty administrative hassles for himself, his family, and his aides," the communique stated. President Soglo "further stated that if these conditions were not met, there would be a civil war, which would hit everybody," the communique stated.

The two presidential candidates were given up until midnight on 29 March to lodge an appeal. According to a Constitutional Court official, Mr. Soglo has filed several petitions. The Constitutional Court now has five days within which to announce its ruling. The provisional results announced on 23 March indicated that General Kerekou won the elections with 52.49 percent of the votes.

The Constitutional Court also pointed out that "representatives who assisted the Constitutional Court during the presidential election runoff are currently facing intolerable threats." Members of the Constitutional Court

"wish to bring these serious acts to the attention of the public and the international community." "The Constitutional Court strongly reaffirms that it will duly continue to accomplish the mission the sovereign people have entrusted it with through the Constitution, in all independence and in all serenity, within the scope of its activities."

Members of the Constitutional Court received death threats on two occasions, and one member's residence came under machine-gun attack prior to the announcement of the runoff results.

Burkina Faso

Burkina Faso: 5 Parties Merge; New Democratic Front Founded

*AB2903160496 Ouagadougou Radiodiffusion
Nationale du Burkina Radio in French
0630 GMT 29 Mar 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Party for Democracy and Progress (PDP) held a news conference in Ouagadougou yesterday to introduce to the media the new version of the party which resulted from the merger of five political parties. The parties are the following: ADS [expansion unknown], Social Progress Party, Burkina Labor Party, Union for Democracy and Social Progress, and the PDP-old version. Professor Joseph Ki-Zerbo, who held the news conference, also announced the founding of the Burkinabe Democratic Front [Front Democratique Burkinabe] which is a merger of the PDP, the Burkinabe Socialist Bloc, and the Union of Greens for the Development of Burkina, an ecological movement.

Cote d'Ivoire

Cote d'Ivoire: Highlights of Prime Minister's 28 Mar News Conference

AB2903215196

[FBIS Report] Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaîne Nationale-Une Network in French at 1000 GMT on 28 March carried a two-and-a-half-hour news conference by Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan. After reading a prepared opening statement, Mr. Duncan answered unidentified correspondents' questions on the Ivorian economy and other issues. The following are highlights.

[Correspondent] You have stated that Cote d'Ivoire is richer now than in 1994 because its growth rate has reached 7 percent. Some people think that this achievement is to satisfy the appetite of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund and not that of the ordinary Ivorian. How is this achievement concretely

seen or what are its concrete repercussions on the daily living of the Ivorian people who have continued to talk about the continued fall in their purchasing power?

[Duncan] My opening statement clearly indicated that there has been an improvement of the situation of our countrymen, even though this improvement is not as glaring as the people would have wanted to see it. Let me recall that we have had 13 years of economic crisis, from 1980 through 1993 when the gross domestic product plummeted.... and the population growth rate was 3.8 percent.

Under these conditions, two years of growth and just one year of strong growth — 7 percent in 1995 and 1.8 percent in 1994 — are not enough to resolve the crisis that had prevailed. We need a high growth rate for a number of years so as to catch up with the morose period between 1980 and 1993. This is how we can improve the people's conditions. I can understand that the people are impatient but we must continue the struggle for development.

First, concerning education, we have built many classrooms in the villages and towns in order to meet the needs in the area of education. Those of you who toured the universities with me saw that we have embarked upon the massive construction of lecture halls and laboratories and equipped the libraries.

In the area of health, we have build hospitals and dispensaries, in particular, in order to be closer to the people. In the past, we used to have one health center for every 12,500 inhabitants. We now have one health center for every 11,500 people. It is already an improvement.

Everyone has seen what we are doing at the level of the three university teaching hospitals.... At the level of the regional hospitals in the interior of the country, we have embarked upon large-scale rehabilitation works. We have equipped them as well, thanks to the assistance of institutions such as the African Development Bank, the European Investment Fund, and thanks to France and so on.

In the area of water supply, we have sunk more than 14,500 wells. Some 6,000 others have been rehabilitated by the government upon the express request of the president of the Republic. On electrification, we have earmarked 25 billion CFA francs for rural electrification so as to bring comfort into our villages. Concerning roads, everyone remembers their condition. We have embarked upon rehabilitation works on them. We are also building 6,000 km of feeder roads. We earmarked 16 billion CFA francs for road construction.... If you go to the villages, the farmers have started building modern

houses again, and are taking better care of their wives and their children.

[Correspondent] Is Cote d'Ivoire's economy being held hostage by the country's external debts and have negotiations with the London Club been stalled? In addition, can Cote d'Ivoire meet its expenditures without incurring further debts?

[Duncan] For now, the negotiations are not stalled. We have very divided stands on the issue. Some of our foreign bankers are of the view that Cote d'Ivoire is a rich country, so to speak. Therefore, they hesitate to make sufficient concessions when dealing with the debts issue.... We are of the opinion that the London Club cannot make concessions that are below those we obtained from the Paris Club for 1997.

We are allocating 26 percent of our investments to the social sector — 11 percent for national education and 11 percent for the health sector.... We are committed to normalizing our contacts with the banks because we want the private sector to play a more important role in the country's economic growth and this can not be achieved through national and international financing only. It is therefore important for us to normalize our contacts with them so as to achieve development.

[Correspondent] The port in San Pedro, which was built in the 1970's, has never been used for imports. As 18 billion CFA francs have been earmarked to rehabilitate this port, can it therefore be opened for imports?

[Duncan] Concerning the San Pedro port, we are planning investments. We are going to develop the fishing port. We have built a highway to link Abidjan and San Pedro within three hours or so. The San Pedro port will play an important role in the area of fishing. It will also help in exporting our raw materials such as cocoa and timber. In the area of imports, it will be used for wheat and cement imports for example. It will play a major role, in particular, when we complete the highway project to link San Pedro and Mali. There will also be another highway to link the town with Guinea and Liberia. So, San Pedro will become a major subregional port. We are working towards this objective.

[Correspondent] Could you tell us a little a bit about the privatization of CI-Telcom (Cote d'Ivoire Telecommunications), the national telephone company?

[Duncan] CI-Telcom has problem because its management is not appropriate to enable it meet its commitments. I am sad to say so but you will see it yourself in the next two years or in a year's time, after it has been privatized. Its profit figures will be announced publicly. You will see how your heart will bleed. The management will be different.... I am telling you that CI-Telcom

is running at a loss and it must be privatized. In a year or so, let us meet here again — by the grace of God — and I will give the figures for their profits. This is why many people are running after the tender for its privatization. It is because the foreign investors know that it is a potentially rewarding venture. Requests for telephone line are enormous and they have not all been met. Why? Existing lines are not working fine.... CI-Telcom will be privatized and the earlier the better. This will be done before the end of the year.

[Correspondent] In spite of all efforts made by the government, there is still renewed banditry. Attacks are perpetrated against citizens at the Ivorian-Libarian border. To build the elephant of Africa, what are the measures that government is taking to check this matter and to maintain peace and tranquility?

[Duncan] Insecurity at the borders is due to the fact that rebel fighters of some Liberian factions have been crossing over into our country to buy food. In some cases, some of these attacks result from the settlement of scores between faction leaders. Our citizens living at the border are sometimes victims of those extortions.... The solution on this aspect of the problem, that is insecurity at our borders, consists in tackling the problem from its root. This means we have to ensure that peace returns to Liberia and that the disarmament agreed upon by member countries of the Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group and those of the OAU and the United Nations, should lead to fair elections in that brotherly country.

Liberia

Liberia: New ULIMO-J Leader Reportedly '100%' in Control

AB3003185196 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 30 Mar 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Liberian ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson] faction has been in considerable disarray, if not in pieces, for the past month. It began when a group of commanders announced that they had sacked the faction's leader, Roosevelt Johnson. Johnson resisted, but he lost his ministerial post and one by one, towns under the control of forces loyal to him such as Kakata, Bong Mine, Todi, and this week, Tubmanburg, have been taken over by other factions and by ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] peacekeeping forces. Well, one of the commanders who dismissed Johnson, Brigadier General William Karyee, has claimed that he is now the chairman of ULIMO-J.

On the line, Khadria Ahmed asked him if he was really in control:

[Begin recording] [Karyee] Hundred percent, I am in control. What happened here is that there is a change of command. As a military man, when you are placed somewhere, at times when you don't live up to the expectations of your overall commander, you can be changed and replaced, and the overall commander in this (?life) is the Executive and the High Military Command.

[Ahmed] Aren't there any people within ULIMO-J who remain loyal to Mr. Johnson?

[Karyee] Well, it might be true because even the devil has a friend, but what we all think he is doing he has some communication [words indistinct] and that he uses to confuse the men at the front, so as a result the men are even, you know some now still do not understand what is going on in the town even though we have sent people to have them educated, but as a counteract, he uses the communication to [words indistinct].

[Ahmed] So, what sort of impact is this now having on the positions of ULIMO-J and the different offensives you are carrying out?

[Karyee] It does not have a very great impact because our men are [words indistinct] one or two of the fronts where we are negotiating with the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] leader in Bong Mine and Todi. In Kakata, our negotiations with the NPFL leadership are completed, our men are already there, but I just want to talk to them as a new leader so that they will, you know, avoid this communications set that is being installed that he is using to have them confused.

[Ahmed] Now are you....[pauses] Do you have any plans to actually go to the front yourself and address these men personally?

[Karyee] Oh yes, 100 percent. I am willing to go to the front as soon as (?we have peace there).

[Ahmed] So, if any of your men in the front line are listening to this program, is there anything in particular you want to say to them?

[Karyee] Yeah. What I want to say to them is that they should not be carried away by whatsoever information that he is giving them. The High Military Command and the Executive have made a decision and we are not going to change our decision. We have been replaced, and we have been recognized, and we are functioning as a leader for the organization. We are representing them from all fronts for all international and national discussions. [end recording]

Liberia: Mediators Call For Independent Commission To Try Johnson

AB0104104996 London BBC World Service
in English 0630 GMT 1 Apr 96

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In Liberia, faction leader Roosevelt Johnson is facing arrest, but it seems he is not willing to give himself up. The government is not keen to arrest him by force and Johnson has refused to be tried by the six-member council of state. In a new development, mediators have called for an independent commission of inquiry to try people suspected of criminal offenses and human rights abuses committed since the outbreak of civil war in 1989. This report from Budu Kaisie in Monrovia.

[Begin Kaisie recording] It has now become clear that the saga between ousted rebel General Roosevelt Johnson and his colleagues in the government is far from over. The government wants Johnson arrested to stand trial for the killing of three persons during clashes two weeks ago between his supporters and his rivals within his ethnic-based Krahn faction.

The interstate mediation committee, a group of influential Muslim and Christian leaders have been trying in the past few days break the standoff, but the group has written a letter to the country's collective presidency saying it has given up on efforts to have Johnson turn himself in. It said Johnson has indicated (?that he is not prepared) to be investigated or tried under the country's present justice system largely allied to the armed factions.

The committee says it is an open secret that since the induction into office of the council of state, violations of human rights and other criminal offenses by those within or associated with the national leadership have become rampant. The committee said it would rather be better to set it up as an independent commission of inquiry that deserves to give judgment on all other abuses committed by the factions since the six years of civil war. [end recording]

Liberia: Justice Minister Interviewed on Roosevelt Johnson Issue

AB2903185896 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 gmt 29 Mar 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program hosted by Chris Bickerton]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Announcer] The Liberian transitional authorities in Liberia are having quite a tussle with faction leader Roosevelt Johnson. He has

been ousted by his commanders as ULIMO-J [United Liberian Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson] leader and has lost his ministerial post. Last week there was a shootout outside his house in Monrovia and there were deaths. A warrant was issued for Johnson's arrest. Johnson refused to leave his house. The interim government appointed clergymen as mediators. They said an application for bail would not be opposed, but Johnson has stayed put. On the line to Monrovia, Robin White asked the justice minister, Francis Garlawolo, who was nominated by Charles Taylor's NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia], if they were running out of patience with Roosevelt Johnson.

[Begin recording] [Garlawolo] Well, he is challenging the whole government, but what is required of this government legally and morally is to ensure law and order in the city of Monrovia and other parts of the country. Everywhere in the world, if somebody kills he must be brought to justice, and so the government is becoming very uncomfortable with his reaction. He must appear before authority.

[White] So, do you have the power to send the police in to arrest him?

[Garlawolo] We are sending the police now to make sure that he doesn't leave the house, but the minister of justice is still open to an arrangement, an amicable arrangement, that will take him to the court without harassment, and we can assure you that his life will be protected because we believe in the principle of law which provides that one charged with a crime is presumed innocent until the contrary is established. [end recording]

[Announcer] Roosevelt Johnson holed up in Monrovia must feel that his whole power base is crumbling. His fighters have been driven out of places such as Kakata, Bong Mine, and Todi, and this week there have been reports that forces of his ULIMO-K [Kromah] rival, Alhaji Kromah, have been attacking Tubmanburg, the headquarters seized by Johnson two years ago. Once again, the civilians of Tubmanburg are the ones suffering most from yet another conflict over the town. From Monrovia Nyenati Allison telexed this report:

Thousands of civilians trapped by continuing fighting in the northwestern town of Tubmanburg are threatened by starvation and disease. Aid workers who arrived in the capital Thursday [28 March] night said 10 people, mainly pregnant women, children, and the elderly are dying daily due to lack of food and medicines. Food supplies taken in two months ago have run out and people have been surviving on wild roots and leaves and drinking from swamps. This has left them vulnerable to

all sorts of diseases. The only hospital in the city has been abandoned by aid workers fleeing the fighting.

Arriving in the capital today, Samson Brown, head of a five-man delegation of prominent Tubmanburg residents who have come to inform the government of the plight of the war victims, said something has to be done. He said that if relief was not brought in soon to Tubmanburg, there will be catastrophe. The main highway linking the capital to Tubmanburg has for the past three months been blocked by a heavy deployment of rebels and today United Nations officials in the capital said the current fighting around Tubmanburg was making an airlift of food and medicines impossible.

There has been no word from Alhaji Kromah, whose forces are said to be fighting Roosevelt Johnson's loyalists, but Charles Taylor, the NPFL leader, said in a broadcast last night that Tubmanburg will be cleared soon of Johnson's rebels. Meanwhile, witnesses among the 10,000 people who fled Tubmanburg, and are now in the capital, have been talking of numerous civilians killed in the fighting.

Nigeria

Nigeria: Security Agents Prevent U.S.-Organized Seminar on Democracy

AB2903150096 Paris AFP in English
1340 GMT 29 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, March 29 (AFP) — Security agents of Nigeria's military junta prevented the US Information Service (USIS) from holding a seminar on democracy in the northern town of Kaduna, press reports said on Friday.

The annual seminar, which attracted participants from Zimbabwe, Kenya, Ghana and Uganda as well as Nigeria, was halted Thursday by the security agents, who locked people out of the hall where it was to be held.

Officials gave no reason for cancelling the seminar, which had been to study electoral procedure and government in Nigeria, where the junta has said it plans to hand over to elected civilians in October 1988.

An official of the USIS contacted Friday said that the embassy would soon issue a statement on the incident. A diplomatic source told AFP that the embassy had formally protested against halting of the seminar.

The US ambassador to Nigeria, Walter Carrington, on Thursday met Nigerian Foreign Minister Tom Ikimi.

A similar seminar, organised by the USIS, was also halted by security agents two weeks ago in Jos, capital of central Plateau state.

The Nigerian pro-democracy opposition rejects the military's transition programme, under which local elections were held this month, and wants the junta to quit power immediately.

Nigeria: Opposition Figure Warns of 'Possible Armed Rebellion'

AB3003171696 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English
1300 GMT 30 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The UN delegation, which is in Nigeria to investigate alleged human rights abuses, has protested about the program for its visit proposed by the military government. A spokesman for the delegation said the program unduly presents the government's point of view but does not include meetings with some key opposition figures who are in prison. The Nigerian foreign minister, Mr. Tom Ikimi, says the delegation can meet them provided it obtains permission.

Meanwhile, Nigeria's Nobel prize winner, Professor Wole Soyinka, has warned of possible armed rebellion if the country's military rulers do not set a date for the [words indistinct]. He said Nigerian opposition groups are meeting in secret in South Africa to decide a deadline for the return to civilian rule. Prof. Soyinka, who is opposed to the rule of General Sani Abacha, will also choose a name for a new umbrella group at a meeting tomorrow. [Words indistinct] which groups would attend.

Prof. Soyinka described the local elections as a sham and dismissed as irrelevant the UN mission to Nigeria. He said the mission may not be allowed to operate freely. The team will be in Nigeria until the 6th of next month.

Nigeria: UNHCR Official Comments on Ogoni Refugees Entering Benin

AB2903194796 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 29 Mar 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The United Nations High Commission for refugees has again expressed concern about the flight of Ogoni people from southwest Nigeria. They have been crossing into neighboring Benin and the exodus has been going on since December. It began in the wake the November executions. On the line to Geneva, Kadria Ahmed asked Paul Redman of the UNCHR how many Ogoni refugees they were talking about.

[Begin recording] [Redman] Since December about 1,000 people have arrived in Benin. These people say

they are activists of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People [MOSOP]. Many of these people are young, well educated males. They include doctors, professors, lawyers, students, Protestant clergymen and others. There are also some relatives of Ken Saro-Wiwa and relatives of some of the other eight men who were executed.

[Ahmed] These people once they have crossed the border into Benin, do you know what sort of state they are in?

[Redman] Yes. These people are arriving in the UNHCR office in Cotonou in Benin. It started out in December with only about nine people. It has increased every month and every week since then. Yesterday for example, we had 81 Ogoni arriving in the UNHCR office in Cotonou. They come there, they fill out registration forms so that they are registered with UNHCR. Then they are moved to a site in Come which is about an hour by road from Cotonou in southwest Benin. That is where these people are staying. Presently they are receiving assistant food rations and so on from UNHCR and next week we will really be getting down to doing in-depth screening of these people.

[Ahmed] Now how confident are you that these people are actually Ogonis?

[Redman] Well, we know that some of them are but how many, we don't know. That is why a screening has to be carried out. In any sort of exodus like this, and this is a very small exodus by the way, but in any exodus of this nature, sometimes you will find people who may not have legitimate asylum claims but you don't know until interviews are done. Here, it is 1,000 people so far, which is not a large number, but what is concerning us is that the numbers have mushroomed quite substantially over the several weeks. [end recording]

Nigeria: Government Refutes Reports of Ogonis Fleeing to Benin

AB0104082396 *Lagos Radio Nigeria Network*
in English 0600 GMT 1 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Federal Government has refuted newspaper reports that about 800 indigenes of Ogoni and Rivers State are seeking asylum in the Benin

Republic office of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees. The government has also described as untrue another newspaper reports that it has withdrawn security forces maintaining law and order in Ogoni ahead of the arrival of the United Nations inspection team.

In a statement, the minister of information and culture, Dr. Walter Ofonagoro, said that the reports were designed to create the impression of unrest in Ogoniland. He stated that life has returned to normal in Ogoni, adding that the people of the area participated enthusiastically in the local government elections. Dr. Ofonagoro said the government was aware of the activities of unscrupulous elements who had been selling (?forms) to Ogoni youths with the promise to take them to overseas countries for greater economic opportunities. He stated that the alleged refugees were impostors who presented themselves as either Ogonis or MOSOP [Movement for the Survival of Ogoni People]

On troops in Ogoni, the minister said, they were withdrawn since the end of the Ogoni crisis. He stated that it was regrettable that some newspapers sought to embarrass Nigeria and to impress the UN mission through the use of false stories. Dr. Ofonagoro again appealed to media houses to exercise the freedom of the press with restraint and to respect the truth.

Nigeria: General Abacha Appoints New Army, Air Force Chiefs

AB3103140096 *Lagos Radio Nigeria Network*
in English 0600 GMT 31 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Two new service chiefs have been appointed. They are Major General Ishaya Bamaïyi, chief of Army staff, and Air Commodore Nsikak Eduok, chief of Air Staff.

Until his appointment, Maj. Gen. Bamaïyi was the commandant of Lagos garrison command, while Air Commodore Nsikak Eduok was the minister of aviation.

A statement by Chief David Attah, chief press secretary to the head of state, says the two appointments are with immediate effect.

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